

SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS
DOUGLAS
LIBRARY



QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY
AT KINGSTON

KINGSTON ONTARIO CANADA

A
LETTER
TO THE
Examiner.



Printed in the Year, 1710.

AC911.1719.864

SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS



DOUGLAS
LIBRARY

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY
AT KINGSTON

KINGSTON ONTARIO CANADA



Printed in the Year 1964

A
LETTER
TO THE
Examiner.

SIR,
WHEN I read the Introduction
to your Paper, it was great
Satisfaction to me to find, that
some Body had undertaken to furnish
Mankind, with a Weekly Antidote to that
Weekly Poison, which by the President and
Inferior Members of a *Factional Cabal*, is so
profusely scatter'd thro' the Nation.

You have sufficiently expos'd the *Letter* which you chose to begin your *Examinations* with. How little of that Probability, which ought to be carried thro' the whole Thread of a well invented Fable, appears in it ! How little Regard is paid to that Justness and propriety of Character, without which, Compositions of this Kind are as Monstrous, as that Government must be, where Submission is made the Duty of the Prince, and Dominion the Prerogative of the Subject ?

But such is the singular Modesty of that Faction, which the Ministers of the Crown have, with so much Advantage to Themselves, nurs'd up, in Opposition to the Crown ; that you must expect to have the same Arguments still pursu'd. The *Observer*, the *Review*, the *Censor of Great Britain*, who resembles the Famous *Censor of Rome* in nothing, but espousing the Cause of the *Vanquish'd*, with the Crowd of Hireling Scriblers, will hope, by a few False Colours, and a great many Impudent Assertions, at last to persuade the People, that the G——l, the quondam T——r, and the J——to, are the

the only Objects of the Confidence of the Allies, and of the Fears of the Enemies : For the QUEEN, and the Whole Body of the *British* Nation —
Nos numerus sumus.

Surely therefore, the Argument which you have undertaken, should be carried further. Allow that the *French* have recover'd Heart, that they rise in their Demands, that the Conferences at *Gertruydenberg* were broke off by them, whilst our *Plenipotentiaries* did all that possibly could be done to obtain a Safe and Honourable Peace ; Allow, I say, all this ; not because it is True, for the contrary shall one Time or other be made out to the World , when the True State of our present Condition will be set in a clearer Light ; yet that Odium which the *Ministers* and their Faction, endeavour to throw on the QUEEN, and on those who have appear'd at her Call, and in Her Defence, will with more Justice be laid at their own Door.

Paint, Sir, with that Force which you are Master of, the present State of the War Abroad, and expose to Publick View

those Principles, upon which, of late, it has been carried on, so different from those, upon which it was Originally enter'd into. Collect some few of the Indignities which have been this Year offer'd to her MAJESTY, and of those Unnatural Struggles, which have betray'd the Weakness of a shatter'd Constitution: And when this is done, *D—*—*n* shall blush in his Grave among the Dead, *W—*—*le* among the Living, and even *Vol—e* shall feel some Remorse.

Forgive me, Sir, if in that Warmth which these Reflections occasion, I anticipate in some measure the Subject, and encroach on the Province, which belongs to you.

To restore the *Spanish* Monarchy to the House of *Austria*, who by their own Supineness, and by the Perfidy of the *French*, had lost it; and to regain a Barrier for *Holland*, which lay naked and open to the Insults of *France*; were the Wise and Generous Motives, which engag'd *Britain* in the present War. We engag'd as *Confederates*, but we have been made to proceed as *Principals*: *Principals* in expence of

Blood and of Treasure, whilst hardly a *Second Place* in Respect and Dignity is allow'd to us.

In the Year 1706. the last of these two Motives was effectually answer'd by the Reduction of the *Netherlands*; or might have been so, by the Concessions, which 'tis Notorious that the Enemy offer'd. But the first Motive remain'd still in its full Force; and we were told, That tho' the Barrier of *Holland* was Secur'd, the Trade of *Britain*, and the Ballance of Power in *Europe* would be still Precarious. *Spain* therefore was to be conquer'd, before we laid down our Arms, and we were made to expect, that the whole Attention of our *Ministers* would be apply'd to that Part of the War. Like Men of resign'd Understandings, we acquiesc'd, and flatter'd our selves, That since *Holland* had been secur'd in the First Place, *Britain* would be taken care of in the Second. But alas! these Expectations, like many others, have fail'd us.

From that Point of Time to this Hour, *France* has continu'd like a great Town Invested indeed on every Part, but Attack'd only in one. In *Spain*, in *Savoy*, on the *Rhine*, Enough and, but just Enough has been done, to serve as a Pretence for *Estimates*, and Demands of *Supplies* : But nothing Decisive, nothing which had the Appearance of Earnest, has been so much as Attempted, except that Wise Expedition to *Thoulon*, which we suffer'd to be Defeated, before it began. The whole Stress of the War has been wantonly laid, where *France* is best able to keep us at Bay ; as if we Fought only to make Ostentation of our Valour, and of our Riches. Towns have been Taken, and Battles have been Won ; the Mob has huzza'd round Bonfires ; the Stentor of the Chappel has strain'd his Throat in the Gallery, and the Stentor of S—m has deafen'd his Audience from the Pulpit. In the mean while, the *French* King has withdrawn his Troops from *Spain*, and has put it out of his Power to restore that Monarchy to us, was he reduc'd low enough really to desire

fire to do it. The *Duke of Anjou* has had leisure to take off those whom he Suspected, to confirm his Friends, to regulate his Revenues, to encrease and form his Troops, and above all, to rouse that Spirit in the *Spanish Nation*, which a Succession of Lazy and Indolent Princes had lull'd asleep.

From hence it appears probable enough, that if the War continue much longer on the present Foot; instead of regaining *Spain*, we shall find the *Duke of Anjou* in a Condition to pay the Debt of Gratitude, and Support the *Grandfather* in his declining Years; by whose Arms, in the Days of his Infancy, he was upheld. The *Dutch* will have a larger and a better Country than their Own, at the Expence of *Britain*, conquer'd for them, by those *Ministers*, who Once thought it Impolitick to Consent, that even *Ostend* should be made a Part of their Barrier. The *Emperor* has already *Bavaria*, the *Dutchy of Mantua*, the State of *Milan*, and the Kingdom of *Naples*, *Sicily*, and some other Places dependent on these, may be added to his Portion; and by
the

the Little Care he now takes to Support King *Charles*; we may easily judge how Great his Concern will be, if that Prince should be depriv'd of all the rest.

Britain may expect to remain exhausted of Men and Money, to see her Trade divided amongst her Neighbours, her Revenues anticipated even to future Generations, and to have this only Glory left Her, that She has prov'd a Farm to the *Bank*, a Province to *Holland*, and a Jest to the whole World.

If the Facts I have mention'd are true, and the Consequences I have drawn from them, are naturally deducible from such Causes, may not the King of *France* reasonably Hope, tho' *Holland* should be aggrandiz'd, that *Britain* will be in proportion weaken'd? May he not Hope, in exchange for a few Towns, which he either Bought or Stole, in former Wars, to Secure the *Spanish* Monarchy to the House of *Bourbon* for ever, by happily concluding this?

Let us now survey the present State of our Domestick Affairs, and examine whether from the Conduct of the Ministry,

stry, and of the Factious *Whigs*, the *French King* has not good Grounds to expect to see us in Confusion, and by consequence the great Band of the *Confederacy* dissolv'd.

Domestick Occurrences, the more they are Examin'd, the greater Weight will they add to the same Argument.

You have, in your *Second Paper*, pointed out some few of those innumerable Obligations, which the *Whigs* have laid on the *French King*. Whenever you think fit to go to the bottom of the Subject, I make no doubt but it will evidently appear, that *Lewis XIV.* has Reason enough to hope for Success from the Measures taken by the *Ministers*, and their Faction at *Home*, as I have already shewn, that he has from the Conduct of the War *Abroad*.

Notwithstanding all the Pains which have been taken to lessen her Character in the World, by the Wits of the *Kit-Cat*, and the Sages of the *Cellar*; Mankind remains convinc'd, that a QUEEN possess'd of all the Virtues requisite

quisite to bless a Nation, or to make a private Family Happy, sits on the Throne.

By an excess of Goodness She delighted to raise some of Her Servants to the highest Degrees of Riches, of Power, and of Honour; and in this only Instance can be said to have Griev'd any of Her Subjects.

The Rule which She had prescrib'd to these Persons, as the Measure of their Conduct, was soon departed from. But so unable were they, to associate with Men of Honester Principles than themselves, that the Sovereign Authority was Parcell'd out among a Faction, and made the Purchase of *Indemnity* for an Offending *Minister*. Instead of the Mild Influences of a Gracious QUEEN Governing by Law, we soon felt the Miserable Consequences of Subjection to the Will of an Arbitrary *Junto*, and to the Caprice of an Insolent Woman.

Unhappy Nation, which expecting to be Govern'd by the Best, fell under the Tyranny of the Worst of her Sex! But now, Thanks be to God, that Fury,

who broke Loose to execute the Vengeance of Heaven on a Sinful People is restrain'd, and the Royal Hand is already reach'd out to Chain up the Plague.

Invisum numen terras cælumq; levabit.

One would expect, that on the First Appearance of the QUEEN's Displeasure, these little Tyrants should have had recourse to Submission, and to Resignation. But they believ'd the whole Nation as Debauch'd and Corrupted, as those Profligate Wretches, who were in their Confidence; they imagin'd, that under the Name of their Prince, they shou'd be able to Govern against Her declar'd Intention; and having Usurp'd the Royal Seat, resolv'd to venture Overturning the Chariot of Government, rather than to lose their Place in it. They set their Mistress at open Defiance, neither the Ties of Gratitude, nor the Bands of Allegiance, were any Restraint to them.

Their First Attempt was to take that Privilege from Her, which the Meanest of
Her

Her Subjects enjoy, and Slavery was to pursue Her even into Her *Bed-Chamber*.

Here the Nation in General took the Alarm ; a Spirit of Loyalty began to rise, which the Faction foresaw would no longer bear to have the meanest Submission shewn to the *Ministers*, whilst Common Decency was hardly us'd towards the *Throne*. The Conspirators resolv'd therefore to precipitate their Measures, and a rash intemperate Sermon was made the Pretence of their Clamour. Those who prove themselves Friends to This Government by avowing Principles inconsistent with any, presum'd Daily to Try the *Title* of the QUEEN, and to Limit the *Allegiance* of the Subject. The Party-Agents of every Rank were employ'd to declaim in Publick Places, and we had the Mortification to see *Cabals* of Upstarts, Sit in Judgment on the Right and Authority of the Crown, who, had it not been for the Profusion of Royal Favour, could have had no Pretence to be Common Tryers in any Cause.

By long insipid Harangues and fulsome Panegyrick the Merits of the *Ministers* were exalted :

exalted : The whole Success of the *Administration* both at Home and Abroad was singly attributed to them; and lest the *QUEEN* should think fit to declare them *Dangerous*, she was by necessary Consequence from the Positions laid down, declar'd Her self to be *Useless*.

This Attempt had likewise an Effect, contrary to what the Projectors of it expected. The Ferment, instead of abating, increas'd; the Bulk of the *Nobility, Gentry, Clergy, and Commonalty* of *Britain* declar'd themselves Loudly in the Cause of their Prince; and those Disorders which the Faction had rais'd for their Security, threaten'd their Destruction.

Not-Daunted yet, they resolve to Try a new Expedient, and the Interest of *Europe* is to be represented as inseparable from that of the *Ministers*.

(*quam est;*)
 — *Haud dubitant equidem implorare quod us-*
Flectere si nequeunt superos, Acheronta movebunt.

The Members of the *Bank*, the *Dutch*, and the Court of *Vienna*, are call'd in as Confederates to the *Ministry*, and such an Indignity is offer'd to the *Crown*, as no
 Man

Man, who has the Honour of his Country at Heart, can with Patience hear.

What a Weakness in our Constitution, what a Sickness at Heart do these Symptoms, which appear too openly, discover?

These are Signs which shew a Government to be near its Dissolution; These are Things which justly give Encouragement to an Enemy. And if you would go to the Root of our Distemper, these are the Topicks you must insist upon, as the real Causes which have prolong'd the War, distracted the Nation, and given *France* Spirit enough at last to break off the Peace.

And these are the Things, Sir, that deserve to pass under your Pen, that the Nation may be truly inform'd from what Springs our own Grievances, and the Hopes of our Enemies, have risen.

